



# AETC Bases News Clips

## Altus AFB, OK



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# Over 60 National Guard soldiers reporting to Altus AFB

*"We are leveraging all our active and Reserve assets in the spirit of joint operations and inter-service cooperation..."*

*-Thomas Hall, assistant secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs*

AAFB- More than 60 Army National Guard soldiers soon will report to Altus AFB to augment Air Force security forces under a memorandum of agreement between the Army and the Air Force.

The two services, in coordination with the assistant secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, agreed for the Army to mobilize Army National Guard and Army Reserve soldiers to provide security at designated

Air Force installations. The Army will augment force protection at Air Force installations worldwide for up to two years while the Air Force phases in permanent solutions.

"We are leveraging all our active and Reserve assets in the spirit of joint operations and inter-service cooperation," said Thomas F. Hall, assistant secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs. "We intend to ensure that our Guard and

Reserve are assigned the right missions, fully integrated within the active component, and deployed in the right numbers required to deter adversaries and help fight and win any conflict."

"This is an example of two services working together in a spirit of cooperation, to ensure fairness and an equitable distribution on the duration, extent and assigned missions of our armed forces," said Maj.

*The Altus Times*

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Over 60 National Guard soldiers reporting to Altus AFB, Con't.

Wayne Dockery, 97th Security Forces Squadron commander. "In this case, the Army has the basic expertise and resources necessary to augment our mission."

The initiative is a temporary relief effort for stressed career fields until permanent solutions are phased in. There are a number of Air Force initiatives being studied and implemented to shift military resources to stressed career fields, to review the military-to-civilian-to-contractor mix, and to make better use of technology.

"There are a number of Air

Force initiatives being studied and implemented to shift military resources to stressed career fields," Major Dockery said.

Assigning the Army military forces is a temporary initiative to allow the security forces to return to a somewhat normal schedule. According to reports, the final solutions will allow military manpower to be shifted into stressed career fields such

as security forces and other military-essential areas. Also, based on new mission requirements, Air Force Recruiting Service hopes to recruit approximately 1,400 additional security forces personnel beyond initial plans over the next two years.

"We welcome the opportunity to work with our sister service," said Major Dockery. "Although there are many times when we

serve together, normally, it isn't on our own turf. We will have a stronger security posture at Altus with our two services working together-one team, one fight-HOOAH!"



# AETC Bases News Clips

## LUKE AFB, AZ



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### Goodyear closing in on deal with Duncan Family Farms

By Marty Sauerzopf  
The Arizona Republic

**GOODYEAR** — The city is close to a settlement that could lead to the re-birth of Duncan Family Farms, the agricultural playground that for 11 years attracted thousands of visitors before being forced to close last fall, officials said Tuesday.

Neither side of the negotiations would give specifics, but the deal could have Goodyear purchasing Kathleen and Arnott Duncan's 44-acre farm at Cotton Lane and Indian School Road. The farm, which has hosted pumpkin festivals, parties and school tours for an estimated 200,000 people over the years, shuttered its operation in October after learning that it was in Luke Air Force Base's accident potential zone.

City spokeswoman Paula Ilardo said negotiations continue with the Duncans, but a settlement agreement could be presented to the City Council on Feb. 10. The council discussed the issue behind closed doors Monday. And Councilman James Cavanaugh said during a candidate forum last week that the city was close to a deal to purchase the farm and resolve the dispute.

Charles Kelhoffer, attorney for the Duncans, said he was "very optimistic" a deal can be struck.

"We are extremely optimistic this matter is going to be resolved in a

**The farm, which has hosted pumpkin festivals, parties and school tours for an estimated 200,000 people ... shuttered ... after learning that it was in Luke Air Force Base's accident potential zone.**

way that is a win for the city of Goodyear, a win for Luke Air Force Base and can be a positive so the Duncans can re-establish their operation at a more compatible location," Kelhoffer said.

The Duncans filed a \$6.2 million claim against the city in November, accusing Goodyear officials of failing to notify them that they were in an accident zone. But Goodyear blamed the state, which extended Luke's accident potential zone from 15,000 feet to 30,000 feet, encompassing most of the farm, although some of the farm has always been in the zone.

The problem was highlighted when Luke began flying all F-16 flights with live weapons over the farm, avoiding northern flights because of residential encroachment from Surprise and El Mirage.

The Duncans continue to operate a leased 2,000-acre farm in the area, producing a variety of vegetables.

*The Arizona Republic*

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# AETC Bases News Clips

## Goodfellow AFB TX



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### **Hundreds from Goodfellow take plunge into icy water**

**SENA ASH**  
**Staff Writer**

January's cold weather makes some people want to curl up in front of the fireplace with a good book and nice warm socks. But that tame pleasure is not for some people - people like the members of the 17th Training Wing at Goodfellow Air Force Base who took a dip in Lake Nasworthy Saturday as part of the second annual Polar Bear Swim.

People got out of their cars in sweats, jackets and toboggans and then changed into Speedos, shorts, swimsuits and less-traditional swimming gear, such as wigs and Superwoman costumes. More than 250 people took the icy plunge, with different squadrons competing with each other to try to have the most people jump in.

The revelers created a sort of Daytona Beach atmosphere, with some people taking advantage of the blaring dance music to break out moves. Some people, however, just huddled in their blankets and stared apprehensively at the water.

"Y'all might wanna do some jumping jacks to get warm," advised the disc jockey. He then played "YMCA" to get everyone moving.

"It was really, really, really cold," chattered Mike Anderson of the 316th Squadron, describing the water conditions. "It hits you all the sudden, and you're whole body goes numb."

Jesse Perkins, of the 316th Squadron, said she didn't think she would do it again. "I couldn't get out because I couldn't feel my arms," she said. "It was painful."

Some people headed straight for their towels and blankets. But some people got back in line for a second or third jump.

"It's one of those things you just gotta do. It's wintertime," said double-dipper Lt. Casey Jackson. "We just wanted to do something crazy," he explained as he stood in his Speedo and wig.

Yes, jumping in Lake Nasworthy in January certainly could be labeled crazy, but there is some method to the madness.

"We represent the United States Air Force," said Lt. Matthew Meyers. "This is all a part of building camaraderie. We're a family and a team. We're defending America, but we're also defending each other. And this event shows that.

"(Jackson) said, 'Let's luxuriate in the water,' but as soon as we hit the water, the only thing on my mind was getting out," Meyers said. A native of Florida, Meyers said he wasn't used to even Texas-style cold, let alone jumping into frigid water.

**The San Angelo Standard Times**  
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### **Hundreds from Goodfellow take plunge into icy water, Con't.**

But Meyers put their discomfort in perspective. "As cold as this water is, it's nothing compared to what the people who are deployed are going through."

As the event wound down, everyone stood around sipping hot chocolate and eating chili and baked potatoes, shivering and laughing at their audacity.

The 316th Squadron won the trophy for having 118 jumpers in the event.

The Polar Bear Swim is the brainchild of outdoor recreational director Kelley Kazura.

Although Kazura made the inaugural jump at last year's event, she didn't do it again this year.

"I believe in my staff having fun, and I didn't want to steal their glory," she said tongue-in-cheek.





# AETC Bases News Clips

## Sheppard AFB, TX



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### Our Opinions Carrying the Torch

#### Area businesses saluted for maintaining highest standards

**January 29, 2003**

At a time when corporate giants have been toppled by greed, fraud and deceitful practices, being recognized for marketplace ethics speaks volumes.

And at a time when economic uncertainty might pressure business leaders to make decisions that would disregard the loyalty and dedication of quality employees, being named a Better Business Bureau Torch Award nominee for 2003 recognizes the effort these leaders make to maintain integrity and courtesy.

Take comfort in knowing that marketplace ethics abounds in North Texas. One need only look to businesses such as HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital, Tangles Salon, Thermagas Inc. of Bowie, Texas, and Johnson Siding Inc. to find the highest principles in action.

These four businesses won Torch awards in their respective categories - small, medium and large business. Tangles and Thermagas tied in the small-business category; Johnson Siding Inc., won for medium-size businesses; and HealthSouth got the nod in the large class.

Nine outstanding North Central Texas businesses were recognized Tuesday, being named finalists in the annual ceremony that salutes businesses that strive to maintain the highest standards of moral principles and values in the workplace. Among the finalists were: Armstrong McCall; Gabby's; German AutoKraft II Inc.; Hancock Fabrics; and Wal-Mart Stores #420.

The luncheon, held at the Wichita Falls Country Club, marked the sixth year the BBB of Wichita Falls acknowledged marketplace ethics. But this year's honors take on new meaning when you consider the scandals that hit corporate America since the last Torch Awards.

"Much has changed since the last Torch Awards," said the event's master of ceremonies, Brig. Gen. Arthur J. Rooney Jr., commander of the 82nd Training Wing at Sheppard Air Force Base. "Since then, we've seen the downfall of solid corporate giants," toppled not by terrorists but "by a disregard of ethics."

Rooney surmised that these corporate giants no doubt talked the talk of marketplace ethics, probably going so far as to place posters throughout their offices touting the importance of treating your employees and your customers with the highest regard.

Tuesday's winners practice the principles of ethical business dealings - and would not need a poster to remind them how to behave.

And the future of marketplace ethics rests in the promising hands of two Midwestern State University students honored with the BBB/Louis J. Rodriguez Ethics Scholarship. Alison Ozuna, a business computer information major and a mother of two, and Jeffrey Fleming, a senior graduating in May with a 4.0 grade-point average in accounting, received the award named after Rodriguez, the former president of MSU.

*Times Record News*  
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### **Our Opinions Carrying the Torch, Con't.**

Congratulations to the winners and finalists for maintaining such high standards when so many have shredded ethics and integrity along with the evidence of their misdoings. And congratulations to First American Bank, a winner in 2002 that finished as a Torch Award national finalist.

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# AETC Bases News Clips

## Maxwell AFB, AL



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### Alabamians back president

**By Ana Radelat**  
*Montgomery Advertiser*

WASHINGTON -- Capt. Maureen Allen, a flight nurse with the Air Force Reserve's 908th Airlift Wing at Maxwell/Gunter Air Force Base, applauded President Bush as he outlined plans to fix the economy and contain Saddam Hussein.

Allen was invited to hear Tuesday's State of the Union address at the Capitol and she was shown sitting next to first lady Laura Bush in the balcony as the president spoke.

While short on specifics, Bush's message was clear to Rep. Terry Everett, R-Enterprise.

"President Bush made clear America's resolve to defend our homeland from terrorists and their sponsors, including the regime of Saddam Hussein," Everett said. "We cannot afford to wait to react to threats, and the president sent a clear message all the way to Baghdad tonight that Saddam's time is running out."



First lady Laura Bush shakes hands with Air Force Reservist Maureen Allen of Montgomery before the State of the Union address Tuesday.

-- H. Darr Beiser, GNS

Bush spent the first half of his speech on domestic issues. At the center of his domestic agenda is a \$674 billion stimulus plan that he said would revive the economy.

The president also outlined changes for Medicare, medical liability, and the environment.

Democrats have attacked the president's tax plan as skewed toward the wealthy.

But Sen. Richard Shelby, R-Tuscaloosa, said he supported Bush's plan, which would eliminate taxes on dividend income.

"The proposals offered tonight will benefit working Americans immediately and also will provide long-term support and stimulus to the economy," Shelby said.

Rep. Mike Rogers, R-Anniston, dismissed the notion that a faltering economy is prompting Americans to doubt Bush's leadership.

***Montgomery Advertiser***

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# AETC Bases News Clips

## Maxwell AFB, AL



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### Alabamians back president, Con't.

"The president has the confidence of the majority of Americans on the economy," Rogers said.

It was Rogers' first time to be part of the Capitol Hill audience for the State of the Union speech. It was also a first for Rep. Artur Davis, D-Birmingham, who, like Rogers, was elected to the House in November.

Davis said it was "a great honor" for someone who "came from next to the railroad tracks of Montgomery, Ala.," to witness a key presidential speech.

But Davis criticized the president for failing to fully finance his domestic initiatives.

"The question is whether or not the president's budget will match his soaring eloquence," the Democrat said.

Davis, who replaced Earl Hilliard in a majority-black district, also expressed doubt about the "evidence" Bush presented.

"President Bush needs to provide specific, visual information outlining Iraq is a present danger," Davis said. "If he fails to provide specific, detailed proof, the country will continue to be divided. I don't want the country to be divided."

"We don't need any more evidence," said Sen. Jeff Sessions, R-Mobile. "We don't need any new smoking gun. What we need is Saddam Hussein to come forward and produce his weapons of mass destruction and not hide them. And if he doesn't, it will not be acceptable."

Sessions' sentiments were echoed by Alabama's two GOP freshmen -- Rogers and Rep. Jo Bonner, R-Mobile. Bonner called Bush's speech "the beginning of a closing argument."

"Occasionally my children don't believe me the first or second or third time I tell them, 'no,'" Rogers said. "It's only when I really get serious that they know I mean it. Saddam Hussein, along with the rest of the countries in the region, are going to have to recognize this is inevitable, and he's going to have to voluntarily step down."

Bush did not reveal his plans beyond announcing that he would send Secretary of State Colin Powell to brief the United Nations Feb. 5, but he warned the world community that opposition from countries such as France and Germany would not delay any action he feels is necessary. "The course of this nation does not depend on the decisions of others," Bush said. "Whatever action is required, whenever action is necessary, I will defend the freedom and security of the American people."

Bush addressed all Americans who wear military uniforms, like Allen.

"Many of you are assembling in and near the Middle East, and some crucial hours may lie ahead. In those hours the success of our cause depends on you," the president said.

***Montgomery Advertiser***

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### **Businesses honored for ethics, integrity**

**By Angel Riggs**  
**Times Record News**  
**January 29, 2003**

Nearly 34 years ago, Bowie-based Thermagas Inc. started selling propane with three employees.

"We always operate under the premise of honesty," said owner Olin Merrett, noting that hiring good employees is vital.

Now decades later with a staff of nine, Thermagas was honored for its ethical practices with a Better Business Bureau Torch Award for Marketplace Ethics.

Thermagas received the honor, along with three other local businesses, at Tuesday's sixth annual luncheon at the Wichita Falls Country Club.

"Ethics and integrity are a precision-guided weapon," which leaves a "lasting legacy," said guest speaker Brig. Gen. Arthur Rooney of Sheppard Air Force Base.

In opening remarks, Rooney attributed the demise of major national companies involved in recent corporate scandals to "a lack of discipline in dealing with what is good and bad in the workplace.

"Ethics is about making your days count, not counting your days," he said.

Thermagas received the award in the small business category, which honors businesses with 10 or fewer employees. Sharing the honor was Johnson Siding Inc., based in Wichita Falls.

Johnson Siding has received a Torch Award nomination for three years.

"It's nice to know that honesty and hard work paid off," said Dorothy Johnson, who started the company with her husband, Terry, in Archer City in 1989.

Tangles Salon won the award in the medium-sized business, or fewer than 99 employees, category.

"We are so excited," said Robin Cook, owner of the 16-employee, full-service salon. "This is our second year to be nominated. We're just thrilled and pleased."

Cook attributed her company's success to consistency and dedication, adding that just this weekend employees attended a seminar focused on how to enhance customers' experiences.

HealthSouth Rehabilitation Hospital of Wichita Falls received this year's prize in the large business category. The 10-year-old hospital has 200 employees.

"We're proud to be a part of the health care delivery system in Wichita Falls," said CEO Mike Bullitt, adding that the hospital will strive to "do the right thing at the right time."

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### **Businesses honored for ethics, integrity, Con't.**

Two Midwestern State University business students were awarded the Better Business Bureau and Dr. Louis J. Rodriguez Ethics Scholarship.

Alison Ozuna, a computer information systems major from San Antonio, and Mark Fleming, an accounting senior, both received the scholarship.

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